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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6675
INFO RUEADWW/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE 6819
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE 7733
BT.

~~SECRET~~ AMMAN 09599

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

JERUSALEM/TEL AVIV PLEASE PASS EAGLEBURGER/MURPHY

E.O.12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: MASS, PREL, JO, US

SUBJECT: JLP AND EAGLEBURGER TALKS IN ISRAEL

1. S - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. THIS IS AN ACTION MESSAGE (SEE PARA 6).
3. KING HUSSEIN, CROWN PRINCE HASSAN, GENERAL BIN SHAKER AND FOREIGN MINISTER KASIM HAVE ALL EXPRESSED MAJOR CONCERN TO AMBASSADOR WITHIN

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PAST 12 HOURS OVER JERUSALEM PRESS REPORTS THAT SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE HAS KILLED THE JLP PROGRAM.

4. BASED ON SECURE TELECON WITH DEPARTMENT AMBASSADOR HAS INFORMED THEM THAT SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS HAVE MEETING SCHEDULED WITH SENATOR BAKER WITHIN NEXT 24 HOURS IN ORDER TO REVIEW WHETHER THERE EXIST ANY PRACTICAL LEGISLATIVE OPTIONS LEADING TO SALVAGING PROGRAM. HE HAS STRESSED DETERMINATION OF ADMINISTRATION TO FIND MEANS ONE WAY OR THE OTHER TO FINANCE PROGRAM, BUT HAS STATED CANDIDLY THAT IMMEDIATE CHANCES FOR KEEPING JLP ALIVE ON THE HILL ARE SLIM.

5. IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER ALL FOUR MEN HAVE RESPONDED IN SIMILAR VEIN: HOW CAN JORDAN CONCEIVABLY MAINTAIN ITS MILITARY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. IN THE FACE OF OUR HELPLESSNESS TO DEFEAT THE ISRAELI LOBBY ON THE HILL ON A PROGRAM OF SUCH VITAL INTEREST TO THE U.S? AT VERY MOMENT WHEN ISRAELIS ARE KILLING JLP ON THE HILL THE ADMINISTRATION (ACCORDING TO ISRAELI PRESS REPORTS) IS RENEWING ITS STRATEGIC DIALOGUE WITH ISRAEL, OPENING THE DOOR TO ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE, INCREASING THE FLOW OF SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND TYING ITSELF TO CLOSER POLITICAL AND MILITARY COOPERATION IN LEBANON.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: KING HUSSEIN AND CROWN PRINCE HAVE INDEPENDENTLY ASKED FOR AN URGENT BRIEFING ON (1) FUTURE OF JLP PROGRAM, AND (2) VALIDITY OF ISRAELI PRESS ASSERTIONS THAT WE ARE ABOUT TO LAUNCH ON A NEW PRO-ISRAELI SWERVE IN OUR MIDDLE EAST POLICY. I HAVE STALLED THEM WITH ASSERTION THAT ISRAELI PRESS IS THE LAST PLACE TO LOOK FOR BALANCE OR ACCURACY WITH RESPECT TO U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP. BUT IT IS GOING TO NEED MORE THAN THAT FACILE PUT-OFF TO KEEP THE LID ON HERE. REQUEST URGENT GUIDANCE ON FUTURE.

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OF JLP AND ON EAGLEBURGER MEETINGS. SPECIFICALLY
I NEED CREDIBLE GUIDANCE ON HOW TO HANDLE QUESTION
OF BROADER STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS FOR OUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR REMAINING MODERATE ARAB
FRIENDS FLOWING FROM NEW U.S.-ISRAELI AGREEMENTS
(IF INDEED THEY EXIST). VIETS

END OF MESSAGE
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